

To: Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]
Cc: Thomas, Deb[thomas.debrah@epa.gov]; Ward, W. Robert[Ward.Robert@epa.gov]; Kortuem, Patrice[Kortuem.Patrice@epa.gov]; Logan, Paul[Logan.Paul@epa.gov]; Boydston, Michael[Boydston.Michael@epa.gov]; Purchia, Liz[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov]; Johnson, Alisha[Johnson.Alisha@epa.gov]; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa[Mcclain-Vanderpool.Lisa@epa.gov]; Mylott, Richard[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]
From: Card, Joan
Sent: Thur 8/21/2014 2:29:56 AM
Subject: Re: Questions about "inappropriate behavior" at EPA Region 8

Will do. Thanks Paula.

Joan

Sent from my EPA iPhone

On Aug 20, 2014, at 7:54 PM, "Smith, Paula" <Smith.Paula@epa.gov> wrote:

All- Attached are draft responses to the Greenwire inquiry. Please get Rich and I comments by 9:00 am MST, so that we can get a final back to Liz and Alisha before the 10 am MST deadline.

Thanks!

- Paula

From: Smith, Paula
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2014 4:07 PM
To: Debrah Thomas; Ward, W. Robert; Kortuem, Patrice; Paul Logan; Boydston, Michael
Cc: Mylott, Richard; McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa
Subject: FW: Questions about "inappropriate behavior" at EPA Region 8

Rich and I are working on draft responses which we will run by you concurrently with Liz and Alicia this evening. Stay tuned.

Deb-OK for me to reach out to Grace on the DHS question?

- Paula

From: Smith, Paula
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2014 4:00 PM
To: Johnson, Alisha
Cc: Purchia, Liz
Subject: RE: Questions about "inappropriate behavior" at EPA Region 8

Liz and Alisha- We will take a stab at first draft of answers this afternoon and run them by review here and with you ASAP.

- Paula

From: Johnson, Alisha
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2014 3:23 PM
To: Mylott, Richard; Smith, Paula
Cc: Purchia, Liz
Subject: FW: Questions about "inappropriate behavior" at EPA Region 8

Just tried giving you a ring. Do you all want to draft responses and then run them by Liz and I?

From: Kevin Bogardus [<mailto:kbogardus@eenews.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2014 5:15 PM
To: Johnson, Alisha; Purchia, Liz; Mylott, Richard
Subject: Questions about "inappropriate behavior" at EPA Region 8

Alisha, Liz and Rich,

Hi, it's Kevin Bogardus with Greenwire.

Myself and a colleague are working on a piece about EPA Region 8's "inappropriate behavior" – such as clogged toilets and feces in the hallway. This behavior attracted wide attention after a Feb. 18 memo that described this behavior and asked EPA employees to stop went public. In response to that memo, Greenwire has obtained more than 800 pages of EPA documents involving this behavior under the Freedom of Information Act. I have attached to this email several of these documents, which I plan to cite in our piece. I have a few questions regarding this, which are:

■• Has the culprit(s) responsible for the inappropriate behavior been identified (please see document 06262014_1012_Redacted)? And if the culprit has been identified, how has he or she been held accountable – docked pay, suspended or fired?

■• Have there been similar incidents of inappropriate behavior to what has transpired in EPA Region 8 in other agency regions and offices across the country? I ask because EPA employees have cited similar incidents in their emails (please see documents 02182014_1126_Redacted and 06252014_1534).

■• It appears that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has been involved in the investigation into these incidents of inappropriate behavior (please see document 03032014_1310_Redacted). What has DHS done to help EPA regarding these incidents?

■• Have the incidents of inappropriate behavior stopped? I ask because some emails, including one by EPA Region 8 Administrator Shaun McGrath, say that the incidents stopped after the Feb. 18 memo went out to employees (please see documents 06252014_1613_Redacted and 06252014_1555_Redacted) but other documents indicate that the incidents continued after the Feb. 18 memo (please see documents 02232014_1814_Redacted, 02282014_1342_Redacted and 06232014_1028_Redacted). Was McGrath not aware of these incidents after the Feb. 18 memo?

■• Are there still increased security patrols at EPA Region 8 (please see documents 02192014_1411_Redacted and 0220_1024_Redacted)? Or has the security presence decreased and if so, when did that happen?

■• EPA Region 8 employees allege that particular individuals are responsible for the incidents of inappropriate behavior, according to the documents. They cite incidents of menstrual blood being smeared on walls (please see document 02192014_1006_Redacted); house keys being stolen (please see document 02192014_0950(2)_Redacted); a printout of rifle (please see document 02242014_1055_Redacted); people bringing gun ammunition into work and other instances of defecation outside the bathrooms (please document 02192014_0851_Redacted). Have these allegations been investigated by EPA and if so, what has been the results of these investigations?

My deadline for this piece is noon EST on Thursday, Aug. 21. Please get back to me before then. Thank you for your help.

Kevin Bogardus

Reporter, Greenwire

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